



The Readiness Management Group

CHRONICLE

News for the Individual Reservist

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Editorial Policy

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Schwartz confirmed as chief of staff

Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, a 35-year veteran in special operations, will be the 19th Air Force chief of staff, according to a Senate confirmation vote which occurred Aug. 1.

General Schwartz provided testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee on July 22, before the full Senate voted on his confirmation. Now the president must appoint the general before he can assume his new position.

"I intend to embody the Air Force core values of integrity, service and excellence as I lead the Air Force at this critical transition period," said General Schwartz.

General Schwartz, who now serves as the commander of United States Transportation Command, will assume the position of Air Force chief of staff. Gen. Duncan McNabb, also confirmed by the Se-

nate, will assume command of USTRANSCOM.

In his current position, General Schwartz' command is the single manager for global air, land and sea transportation for the Department of Defense.

His command experience includes the 1st Special Operations Group and 1st Special Operations Wing, both at Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Special Operations Command Pacific, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii; U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.; and Alaskan Command, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

General Schwartz attended the U.S. Air Force Academy and graduated in 1973. He is an alumnus of the National War College, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a 1994 Fellow of Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Seminar XXI.



Gen. Norton A. Schwartz was confirmed by the Senate Aug. 1 to be the next Air Force chief of staff. U.S. Air Force photo

Stenner visits RMG

By Capt. Kimberly Champagne
RMG Public Affairs

The new Commander of the U.S. Air Force Reserve Command, Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., visited the Headquarters Readiness Management Group in Warner Robins, Ga. on July 15, to meet Reserve Airmen and receive an overview of the Individual Reservist program.

"Hats off to this great effort. This is one of two major programs I want to make sure is available to keep folks who are leaving active duty, as a viable way for them to continue participating in the Air Force," said General Stenner.

General Stenner commended the RMG for the system that tracks Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists).

"Three years ago there wasn't a tracking system and now there is. Good job," the general said.

General Stenner assumes a dual role which requires him to divide his time between serving as chief of the U.S. Air Force Reserve in Washington, D.C. while also being head of the U.S. Air Force Reserve Command at Robins AFB, Ga.



Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner, U.S. Air Force Reserve commander, is greeted by Col. Nancy Robinson, RMG commander and Chief Master Sgt. Dina Moriarty, RMG superintendent, during his visit to the Readiness Management Group on July 15. General Stenner assumed command June 24. Photo by Capt. Kimberly Champagne



Commander's Corner

As the summer comes to a close I thank you for your sacrifices and thank you for all you do.

Recently the Air Force lost a fine Airman in Lt. Col. Fredrick Gaston, an IMA assigned to the 11th Mission Support Squadron at the Pentagon, who was traveling to complete his last annual tour before retirement.

I am reminded how precious life is and how state-side Airmen also take a risk to serve their country. The commute to and from your duty stations to serve, and mental and physical challenges from meeting all your professional and personal obligations, can take a toll. I think you all are great Americans.

I ask that you not only keep our Wingmen who are serving in the AOR in your thoughts but also remember the Wingmen who serve at home.

Take care of yourselves.

GI Bill increases

WASHINGTON — A new Montgomery GI Bill that improves educational benefits for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans was signed into law as part of a \$162 billion bill to pay for the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, said he was pleased that Congress was finally able to provide the increased benefit to war-time veterans, those serving since Sept 11, 2001.

"This new GI Bill will not only shape the nature of today's military, it will also shape the future of the military, and our nation, for many years to come," said Akaka, a co-sponsor of the bill. "We recognize that the ability of our armed forces to attract and retain quality personnel in the future — and consequently our national security, depends on how we meet the needs of those serving today."

The new law increases the education benefit for service members, including the National Guard and Reserves. It will pro-

vide up to 36 months of benefits, enough to pay for four academic years of school.

The benefit, to become effective on Aug. 1, 2009, would pay tuition and fees for the most expensive public university in the state where the veteran resides. It includes a housing allowance and up to \$1,000 annually for books and supplies.

The benefit could be used to pay tuition at a more expensive private institution, if the school also helped the veteran with the cost.

The new law includes a 20 percent increase in the current GI Bill, to \$1,321 a month from \$1,101 a month, for veterans attending school until the new program takes effect.

"This bill properly provides a modern and fair educational benefit to address the needs of those who answered the call of duty to our country — those who moved toward the sound of the guns — often at great sacrifice," said Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va., sponsor of the bill.

New GTC set to debut

The Department of Defense's current Government Travel Charge Card contract with Bank of America is ending this year. As the travel card program transitions to the new SmartPay2 contract, all government travel cardholders will receive new cards during the summer of 2008, beginning in August.

The new GTCs will be ready for use on Nov. 30, after the current cards issued by Bank of America expire on Nov. 29 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. The new GTCC will be mailed to servicemembers' mailing address on file with Bank of America, so ensure it is current.

If you do not receive your new travel card by Oct. 31, notify your Agency Program Coordinator.

Traveling during the changeover

If you are traveling during the changeover — Nov. 29-30 — you should charge all official travel expenses up to, and including Nov. 29, on your current Bank of America GTCC. Travel expenses



incurred on or after 12:00 a.m. EST on Nov. 30 should be charged to your new GTCC issued by Citi.

Important Note

Remember to verify receipt of your new travel card to ensure you will be able to use it on Nov. 30.

You can verify receipt of your card by phone or online anytime after August 15. The contact information will be on a sticker affixed to your card.

As part of the receipt verification process, you will be asked to accept the cardholder agreement terms and conditions. You must agree to the terms and conditions in order to use your new travel card.

What to expect

Since the new card will also be VISA branded, you'll have the same worldwide charging privileges that you currently have. Charge limits will remain the same and APCs will have the authority to raise limits to meet mission requirements.

Links for more information

Your primary contact for transition information is your APC. Cardholders can also visit www.defensetravel.dod.mil; www.gsa.gov/smartpay; or send questions to dtmotc@dtmo.pentagon.mil for more information.

Dual Compensation for Reservists

By Maj. Cloyce Pittman

RMG Director of Personnel

Reservists may have payment errors when they perform Reserve duty if they also receive U.S. government pensions, disability compensation, retainer pay or retirement pay related to prior military service.

To prevent payment errors, Reservists must send an Air Force Form 1962, Election of Reserve Pay and Allowances or Benefits from Prior Military Service, to their designated Reserve Pay Office before performing Reserve duty. The forms are located at www.af.mil under 'Forms and Publications.'

Reservists who have already provided the Forms 1962 to their designated RPO, should update them regularly to ensure proper payment.

For more information concerning completion of the AF Form 1962, contact your



designated RPO. For more information about the handling of Reserve pay for members receiving the U.S. government compensations listed above, contact Mr. Calvin Shelby, RMG/RPO, at (478) 327-2385, or DSN 497-2385, or e-mail RMG.RPO@afrc.af.mil.

IMA received National Image Inc. Meritorious Service Award

By Airman 1st Class Kelly LeGuillon

435th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Cornelia Weiss, an Individual Mobilization Augmentee working in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe directorate of plans, programs and analysis consortium beddown division, is the 2008 National Image Inc. Meritorious Service Award winner.

The award recognizes Colonel Weiss for her promotion of human rights and the rule of law in Colombia, as the U.S. Southern Command staff judge advocate liaison officer working with the Colombian Ministry of Defense.

After a year and a half working with the Colombian Ministry of Defense to help the country's military develop legal resources to fight narcotics-related terrorism, Colonel Weiss considers her time in Colombia as one of her most challenging assignments to date.

"Colombia is a country desperately working to get to the post-conflict stage," said Colonel Weiss.

"This country of 40 million people has been combating narco-terrorism for more than 40 years. The human costs are high."

During the colonel's deployment, Colombia's Ministry of Defense made military justice reform a priority.

"They realized that without a credible and legitimate military justice system, the operational end of the war with the narco-terrorists was not likely to improve," said Colonel Weiss.

Day-to-day, Colonel Weiss advised and helped train Colombian legal officers to use an oral advocacy system. She also assisted them in investigating and addressing charges of cover-ups of human rights abuses.

In order to help the Colombian government gain control throughout its country, Colonel Weiss worked with SOUTHCOM and the Colombian Ministry of Defense to develop specific plans of action and measures of effectiveness for human rights and international humanitarian law training.

"The most time-consuming part

of my job was the pro-active effort, immeasurably aided by the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies, to train the second-largest military justice corps in the world—after the United States—in the accusatorial system," said the colonel.

Colonel Weiss also helped the Colombian military modernize its military justice system by planning and implementing \$2.5 million in legal and human rights reforms.

Colonel Weiss is currently working at USAFE to create an international heavy airlift consortium of North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Partnership for Peace nations for national, NATO and international humanitarian airlift and disaster relief purposes. She is also attached to the 52nd Fighter Wing Judge Advocate office at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

She was recently scheduled to receive her award in Las Vegas.

"For all of its problems, Colombia is also a paradise," said Colonel Weiss. "The Colombia that I



Lt. Col. Cornelia Weiss, center, with Colombian military personnel during a Colombian military joint operations inspection of human rights training in the autumn of 2005. Courtesy photo

now hold in my memory is nation of contrasts.

"There is a Colombia where I met and made many friends and there is a Colombia where I had to be protected by bullet-proof glass and bodyguards."

Pacific Angel 08 puts Medical IMA to the test

By Tech. Sgt. Tom Czerwinski

45th Space Wing Public Affairs

PEHNOM PHEN, Cambodia — When temperatures approach 90 degrees with 90 percent humidity by 7 a.m. in rural Cambodia, excitement fills the air. News has spread far and wide by local religious leaders and word of mouth: American medical personnel have returned to help the Cambodian people.

Approximately 30 U.S. Air Force Individual Mobilization Augmentees participated in Pacific Angel 01-08, working alongside Royal Cambodian Armed Forces members to provide critical medical and veterinary services to the people of Cambodia, May 25 to 29.

Pacific Angel is a total force mission led by the 13th Air Force, and staged from two provinces within the Kingdom of Cambodia. The operation emphasized not only international teamwork, but also Total Force teamwork.

"If it was not for the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard coming together, we

would not be able to pull this mission off," said Maj. Brad Cogswell, Pacific Air Forces International Health Affairs mission planner.

When the Pacific Angel team arrived at the Kampong Cham Province Temple on day one



A young Cambodian boy is checked for complaints of breathing trouble by Maj. Nisha Money, a preventive health physician from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Andrews AFB. Photos by Tech. Sgt. Tom Czerwinski

and started to hand out tickets, they were mobbed, according to Staff Sgt. Diane Borogan, patient intake coordinator at the Pagoda, 445th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio.

"When we arrived to open our doors at 7 a.m., we were surprised to see the courtyard filled and we required help from security as 300 people mobbed us all wanting a ticket to be seen at the clinic," Sergeant Borogan said.

"This mission was absolutely unbelievable and it taught us all the importance the local people place on these missions," said Col. Paul Abson, primary care doctor, 446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, McChord AFB., Wash. "Here at the Buddhist Temple in Kampong Cham Province, the Anakana (chief monk) was very cooperative with letting us run a clinic, and we had to respect the culture.

"We have a great facility here; it is very large. On one side we have dental operations and on the other, primary care clinic. We have seen on

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Check out the IMA Hot Topics CoP, located in Air Force Knowledge Now (<https://afkm.wpaaf.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=RC-OT-00-03>), to read the RMG Strategic Plan. A feedback form is available for inputs on the strategic plan see pg. 4 for location of the feedback form.

Pacific Angel

Continued from page 3

average about 700 patients a day," said Colonel Abson. "We have been able to work well with the RCAF because most of our interpreters were medical and dental students, so that was key to communications here to pinpoint problems and facilitate needs."

The Kampong Chnang Friendship Clinic was built by a Marine Corps task force in 2005 and is one of two unilateral partnership clinics run in Cambodia. The Friendship Clinic operates four main clinics: primary care, dentistry, op-tometry and women's health.

"We have seen up to 700 patients a day in our four clinics," said Master Sgt. Grace Devera, PACAF IHA. "We have three primary-care doctors working with three Royal Cambodian



Col. Paul Abson, 446th ASTS, McChord AFB, Wa. primary care doctor, examines a Cambodian patient at the Kampong Cham Province Temple clinic.

Armed Forces primary-care doctors, three Cambodian dental students working with our dentists, and 13 translators who are key to the language barriers."

Most often the villagers come because they have no money to be treated for minor problems at their local clinics, which are usually reserved for the most serious conditions, according to Lt. Col. Willow Barton, Headquarters Readiness Management Group, Robins AFB, Ga.

Most of the patients are women, children and older men. Their problems can range from headaches to toothaches, and the trend among older people is mostly eye problems.

The check-in procedures are a height, weight and blood pressure check. Patients are given a number and wait to be seen by a clinic staff member.

In a country where dental care is almost non-existent for the population's majority, the Friendship Clinic's dentists are treating up to 100 people a day.

"We had three two-person teams with one Air Force dentist and one Cambodian dental student per team," said Col. Mark Beehner, IMA at 375th Dental Squadron, Scott AFB, Ill. "So far, we have made contact with very few people who have ever had any type of dental care. In fact, there are so many teeth that have to be removed, we have to limit it to one fourth of the mouth."

"What we had to do in the case of one woman who never had dental care, was to perform a surgical extraction of a tooth that had severe decay and was abscessed," said Colonel Beehner.

"I came here with a bad toothache and they fixed me," said Man Hasenus, a Cambodian patient. "I feel so happy now. I was scared at the beginning but the doctors calmed me."



Lt. Col. Susan Miller, Brooks City Base, Texas IMA and veterinarian, inoculates a Brahman cow with a combination drug for Clostridium and Pasteruella disease.

On the first day of operations, it was not only the dentists who were busy. The doctors in primary care had their hands full also.

Generally, people were showing up with chronic diseases such as hypertension and diabetes that had gone a long time with no treatment, according to Maj. Nisha Money, a preventive health physician from the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center in Washington.

During the five days of mission operations the staff from both clinic and the Children's Surgical Center in Pehnom Phen treated more than 6,800 Cambodian citizens.

"We've had an opportunity to work with the RCAF, the U.S. Total Force team, civil affairs staff, defense attaché, and office of defense cooperation. It was a great opportunity to partner with the Khmer population, civilian and military, to work unilaterally. It was instrumental in building future friendships," said Col. John Cinco, PACAF IHA director.

News Briefs, Education Information

RMG strategic plan survey deadline extended

In an effort to measure progress towards the goals and objectives of its Strategic Plan, HQ RMG is seeking the inputs of Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists), through a feedback form posted at: <https://einvitations.afit.edu/AFRCSurvey/index.cfm>.

All U.S. Air Force IRs are requested to complete the form by Sept. 1.

The RMG is setting three-year goals for the U.S. Air Force IR program. As part of this initiative, a Strategic Planning Conference was held at HQ RMG in January.

During the conference the RMG Strategic Plan was written. It is found on IMA Hot Topics CoP at [https://www.my.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/docman/DOCMain.asp?Tab=0&FolderID=RC-OT-00-03-](https://www.my.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/docman/DOCMain.asp?Tab=0&FolderID=RC-OT-00-03-7&Filter=RC-OT-00-03)

7&Filter=RC-OT-00-03.

The results of the feedback form will be part of a series of data points collected to set a baseline measurement. In a year, feedback will be requested again to assess progress on meeting intents of the RMG Strategic Plan.

For more information contact Capt. Kimberly Champagne at 478-327-2419.

Guidance about pregnancy during extended MPA tours

According to AFRCI 41-104, members cannot be on orders after 34 weeks gestation. If delivery is before 34 weeks, member is taken off orders and transferred to the nearest hospital. The U.S. Air Force assumes no liability for the cost of care for mother and child.

Checked baggage policy changes

Many airlines are charging additional fees for checked baggage. Personnel traveling on a government ticket should not have to pay excess

fare in most cases. For information on specific airline policies, use the Website link below to review a fact sheet. It will provide information on the right of travelers flying under contracted fares. The fact sheet shows the fee charged or if an exception is allowed by the carriers.

The fact sheet link is http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gas/ep/content-View.doontentType=GSA_BASIC&contentId=1937&noc=T. Reserve Developmental Education Designation Board

The U.S. Air Force Reserve Developmental Education Designation Board will convene at the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Nov. to select Reserve Officers to attend in-residence Developmental Education Schools. Members meeting the established criteria are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact your program manager or BIMAA. Also, complete informa-

tion, eligibility criteria, and application instructions can be found at the ARPC Website <http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=8604>.

2008 Military Handbooks now available

Free handbooks, written specifically for military servicemembers, include a variety of information about pay, benefits, education, and transitioning from the military. For more information or to receive a copy visit www.militaryhandbooks.com.

Course 12, 14 enrollment changes

Before senior NCOs are eligible for a senior rater endorsement, they must complete either Course 12 or 14, which are senior NCO professional military education distance learning courses. They must also have a Community College of the Air Force degree. For more information visit <http://afiadl.custhelp.com>.